

## Message Text

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20

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

NSF-04 OMB-01 /196 R

DRAFTED BY L/ OA: HDCAMITTA: JV

3/15/73

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R 160015 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR, US, GH

SUBJECT: LOS - US DEMARCHE TO GHANA ON TERRITORIAL SEA

EXTENSION

REF: MOSCOW 2735

1. IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET REQUEST REFTEL, EMBASSY MAY ADVISE MFA THAT US CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW A STATE CAN ONLY CLAIM A THREE NAUTICAL MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AND A CONTIGUOUS ZONE, INCLUDING FISHERIES
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JURISDICTION, EXTENDING NINE NAUTICAL MILES BEYOND THIS TERRITORIAL SEA, ABSENT BROAD INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT. WE OPPOSE UNILATERAL EXTENSIONS OF JURISDICTION BEYOND THESE LIMITS AND NORMALLY REGISTER OUR OPPOSITION AND RESERVE OUR RIGHTS BY DELIVERY OF A PROTEST. THIS PROCEDURE WAS FOLLOWED IN THE CASE OF GHANA WITH A PRESENTATION BEING MADE ON FEBRUARY 1 OF THIS YEAR.

2. EMBASSY MAY FURTHER INFORM SOVIETS THAT OUR PRESENTATION WAS NOT ONLY BASED ON INTERNATIONAL LAW, BUT ALSO REFERRED TO THE EFFECT OF SUCH CLAIMS ON HIGH SEAS NAVIGATIONAL FREEDOMS. WE NOTED THE ADVERSE EFFECT OF UNILATERAL CLAIMS ON REACHING AGREEMENT AT THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE AND THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY SUCH COASTAL STATE CLAIMS FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF TUNA FISHERIES.

3. US CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE IS THE BEST FORUM FOR RESOLVING OUTSTANDING OCEAN PROBLEMS, IN WHICH ACCOMMODATION IS POSSIBLE AND IN WHICH STATES WILL BEST BE ABLE TO PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS. ROGERS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X

**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994

**Channel Indicators:** n/a

**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED

**Concepts:** n/a

**Control Number:** n/a

**Copy:** SINGLE

**Draft Date:** 16 MAR 1973

**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960

**Decaption Note:**

**Disposition Action:** RELEASED

**Disposition Approved on Date:**

**Disposition Authority:** smithrj

**Disposition Case Number:** n/a

**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW

**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004

**Disposition Event:**

**Disposition History:** n/a

**Disposition Reason:**

**Disposition Remarks:**

**Document Number:** 1973STATE048638

**Document Source:** CORE

**Document Unique ID:** 00

**Drafter:** HDCAMITTA: JV

**Enclosure:** n/a

**Executive Order:** n/a

**Errors:** n/a

**Film Number:** n/a

**From:** SECSTATE WASHDC

**Handling Restrictions:** n/a

**Image Path:**

**ISecure:** 1

**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730331/aaaahxiy.tel

**Line Count:** 88

**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE

**Office:** ORIGIN L

**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a

**Original Previous Classification:** n/a

**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a

**Page Count:** 2

**Previous Channel Indicators:**

**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a

**Reference:** 73 MOSCOW 2735

**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED

**Review Authority:** smithrj

**Review Comment:** n/a

**Review Content Flags:**

**Review Date:** 25 SEP 2001

**Review Event:**

**Review Exemptions:** n/a

**Review History:** RELEASED <25-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by smithrj>

**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released

US Department of State

EO Systematic Review

30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**

**Review Referrals:** n/a

**Review Release Date:** n/a

**Review Release Event:** n/a

**Review Transfer Date:**

**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a

**Secure:** OPEN

**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971211

**Subject:** LOS - US DEMARCHE TO GHANA ON TERRITORIAL SEA EXTENSION

**TAGS:** PBOR, GH, US

**To:** ACCRA

MOSCOW

USUN NEW YORK

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005